

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A service providing apparatus for providing services comprising:

an authentication information managing section configured to manage authentication information related to the services, the authentication information having a term of validity;

an extension request accepting section configured to accept an extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information, judge whether the authentication information was created by the service providing apparatus by referring to an identifier included in the authentication information when the request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information is received, and judge whether the extension request was made within the term of validity of the authentication information if the ticket was created by the service providing apparatus; and

an authentication information updating section configured to extend the term of validity of the authentication information when the authentication information was created by the service providing apparatus and the extension request was made within the term of validity of the authentication information ~~depending on the extension request.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said authentication information managing section is configured to manage, ~~in a related manner,~~ the authentication information, information related to a request source which makes the extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information, and an authority to extend the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said authentication information managing section is configured to manage, in a related manner, the authentication information, information related to a request source which made a creating request to create the authentication information, information related to a request source which makes the extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information, and an authority to extend the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said authentication information updating section is configured to judge whether or not a request source which made the extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information has an authority to extend the term of validity, and extends the term of validity of the authentication information when it is judged that the request source has the authority to extend the term of validity.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said authentication information updating section is configured to extend the term of validity of the authentication information when it is judged that the request source has the authority to extend the term of validity, create new authentication information including the extended term of validity, and delete the old authentication information.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said authentication information managing section is configured to manage the authentication information and an extended term of validity of the authentication information in a related manner.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said authentication information managing section is configured to manage the authentication information and a number of times the term of validity of the authentication information is extended in a related manner.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:

an extension response sending section configured to send an extension response including an identifier for identifying the newly created authentication information having the term of validity extended by said authentication information updating section ~~and~~.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a monitoring section configured to monitor the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a notifying section configured to transmit information related to the term of validity of the authentication information to a request source which made a creating request to create the authentication information.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A service providing method to provide services from a service providing apparatus, comprising:

managing authentication information related to the services, the authentication information having a term of validity;

accepting an extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information;

judging whether the authentication information was created by the service providing apparatus by referring to an identifier included in the authentication information when the request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information is accepted;

judging whether the extension request was made within the term of validity of the authentication information if the ticket was created by the service providing apparatus; and

extending the term of validity of the authentication information when the authentication information was created by the service providing apparatus and the extension request was made within the term of validity of the authentication information depending on the extension request.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said managing includes managing, in a related manner, the authentication information, information related to a request source which makes the extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information, and an authority to extend the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said managing includes managing, in a related manner, the authentication information, information related to a request source which made a creating request to create the authentication information, information related to a request source which makes the

extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information, and an authority to extend the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

judging whether a request source which made the extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information has an authority to extend the term of validity; and

extending the term of validity of the authentication information when it is judged that the request source has the authority to extend the term of validity.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

judging whether a request source which made the extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information has an authority to extend the term of validity;

extending the term of validity of the authentication information when it is judged that the request source has the authority to extend the term of validity; and

creating new authentication information including the extended term of validity.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said managing includes managing the authentication information and an extended term of validity of the authentication information in a related manner.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 11, wherein managing includes managing the authentication information and a number of times the term of validity of the authentication information is extended in a related manner.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

    sending an extension response including an identifier for identifying the authentication information having the term of validity extended and the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

    monitoring the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The service providing method as claimed in claim 11 [[1]], further comprising:

    transmitting information related to the term of validity of the authentication information to a request source which made a creating request to create the authentication information.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a service providing apparatus ~~computer~~ to perform a method to provide services, said method comprising:

    managing authentication information related to the services and having a term of validity;

accepting an extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information;

judging whether the authentication information was created by the service providing apparatus by referring to an identifier included in the authentication information when the request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information is accepted;

judging whether the extension request was made within the term of validity of the authentication information if the ticket was created by the service providing apparatus; and

extending the term of validity of the authentication information when the authentication information was created by the service providing apparatus and the extension request was made within the term of validity of the authentication information ~~depending on the extension request.~~

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A service providing apparatus comprising:  
an integrated services providing section to provide integrated services of one or a plurality of services provided by a service providing section,

said integrated services providing section comprising:

a creating request sending section configured to send an authentication information creating request requesting creation of authentication information, the authentication information having a term of validity and being related to a service provided by a first service providing section within said service providing section, to the first service providing section;

a response receiving section configured to receive from the first service providing section an authentication information creation response including an authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information;  
and

an extension request sending section configured to send an extension request requesting extension of the term of validity of the authentication information, ~~with respect to the first service providing section.~~

Claim 23 (Original): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein the extension request includes the authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information and a requested extension time.

Claim 24 (Original): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the extension request further includes an identifier for identifying the integrated services providing section.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein said integrated services providing section further comprises:

an authentication information managing section configured to manage the authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information and the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein said integrated services providing section further comprises:

an extension response receiving section configured to receive from the first service providing section an extension response including an authentication information identifier for identifying authentication information having an extended term of validity.



Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein said authentication information managing section is configured to manage an authentication information identifier for identifying authentication information having an extended term of validity ~~and an extended term of validity~~.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein said integrated services providing section further comprises:

a session request sending section configured to send ~~with respect to a second service providing section within said service providing section, other than the first service providing section,~~ a session request requesting start of a session at a second service providing section within said service providing section, the session request and including the authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein said integrated services providing section further comprises:

a session response receiving section configured to receive from the second service providing section a session response indicating the start of the session and including a session identifier for identifying the session.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein said integrated service providing section further comprises:

a session managing section configured to manage a session identifier for identifying the session.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein said integrated service providing section further comprises:

a notification receiving section configured to receive from the first service providing section a term of validity information notification including information related to the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The service providing apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein said integrated service providing section further comprises:

a monitoring section configured to monitor the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A service providing method for an integrated services providing section which provides integrated services of one or a plurality of services provided by a service providing section, comprising:

sending an authentication information creating request requesting creation of authentication information having a term of validity and being related to a service provided by a first service providing section within said service providing section to the first service providing section;

receiving, from the first service providing section, an authentication information creation response including an authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information; and

sending an extension request requesting extension of the term of validity of the authentication information to the first service providing section.

Claim 34 (Original): The service providing method as claimed in claim 33, wherein the extension request includes the authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information and a requested extension time.

Claim 35 (Original): The service providing method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the extension request further includes an identifier for identifying the integrated services providing section.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 33, further comprising:

managing the authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information and the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 33, further comprising:

receiving, from the first service providing section, an extension response including an authentication information identifier for identifying authentication information having an extended term of validity.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 36, wherein said managing includes managing an authentication information identifier for identifying authentication information having an extended term of validity.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 33, further comprising:

sending, with respect to a second service providing section within said service providing section other than the first service providing section, a session request requesting start of a session and including the authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 39, further comprising:

receiving, from the second service providing section, a session response indicating the start of the session and including a session identifier for identifying the session.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 39, further comprising:

managing a session identifier for identifying the session.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 33, further comprising:

receiving, from the first service providing section, a term of validity information notification including information related to the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The service providing method as claimed in claim 33, further comprising:

monitoring the term of validity of the authentication information.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to perform a method to provide integrated services of one or a plurality of services provided by a service providing section, the method comprising:

    sending an authentication information creating request requesting creation of authentication information having a term of validity and being related to a service provided by a first service providing section within said service providing section to the first service providing section;

    receiving, from the first service providing section, an authentication information creation response including an authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information; and

    sending an extension request requesting extension of the term of validity of the authentication information to the first service providing section.